

#### First Steps Training

Marion County First Steps is pleased to offer a Discipline/Behavior Training for parents. It will be held on Saturday, March 14, 1998 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. See the back for more information.

#### A Winnie the Pooh Birthday Tail

will be held at the Cleveland Signstage
Theatre presented in American Sign
Language and spoken English by deaf
and hearing performers. It will be held
on Saturday, March 21, 1998. Performances
at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 per
person. The play is at Paramount Theatre
Centre, 1124 Meridian Plaza, Anderson.
(765)642-1234 for more information.



#### A Trip to Washington D.C.

The fourth grade class is preparing for a field trip to Washington, DC in April. They have completed the design of a long sleeved T-shirt with the images of William Willard (Deaf School founder) on the front and the Alumni Hall on the back, "Indiana Deaf School" down one sleeve, and the names of every student, from Kindergarten through 12th grade, printed on the front and back. IF you are interested in purchasing one (and supporting us on our field trip), please contact Jeanne Meyerhoff Peters or Laura Gaalema to place your order. Adult sizes (small through XXlarge) are \$17 and Youth sizes (6-16) are \$15.00.

#### Parent Workshop on Sunday, February 22, 1998

from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. in Coed Lounge at ISD Laurene Gallimore, University of Arizona will be here to present on "IT IS CHEAPER TO RAISE A CHILD THAN TO FIX AN ADULT". Hope to see you all there!

#### **Preschool Field Trips**

February 24-3-4 years old to the Fire Station/McDonalds
February 26-Pre-K to the Fire Station/McDonalds
February 27-Home Visits
Please feel free to join us on the field trips.









# Discipline/Behavior Training

#### Sponsored by Marion County First Steps

What do you do when a child is having a tantrum?

How do you get your child's behavior under control?

Come participate in the Discipline/Behavior Training

Time:

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

When:

Saturday, March 14, 1998

Place:

Crossroads Rehabilitation Center

4740 Kingsway Drive, Indianapolis, IN

Cost:

Free to Parents of Children-Birth to Five

Conference Reservations, Child Care Reservations or

Stipend Inquiries - Call Gayle Foy at IPIN -257-8683

Limited free on-site childcare by reservation only.

Reservations must be made by March 1st.

Off Site child care or transportation stipends available as needed.









#### Indiana School for the Deaf Preschool Newsletter March 1998

#### Friendly Reminder:

First Steps Training:

Marion County First Steps is pleased to offer a Discipline/Behavior Training for parents. It will be held on Saturday, March 14, 1998 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Interpreters will be provided.

#### **Technology Fair**

There will be a technology fair to be held on Thursday, March 19th at Distance Learning Center and Conference Room in the vocational building. Parents may go from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Parents are invited to eat supper in Brown Cafeteria from 5:20 to 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Diane Hazel at (317)924-8418.

#### **NEW TIME!**

Parents of Medically Involved Children (C.H.A.R.G.E and others)
Meeting at the Indiana School for the Deaf in Building 1, Multi Purpose Room on Thursday, March 12, 1998 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Share information with a small group of parents. Learn news of conferences. Have fun. Any questions, see Sharon Mealka.

#### Friendly Reminder:

12:30 dismissal on March 20th for Report cards and March 28th for Spring Break. School will resume on April 6th at 8:00 a.m. Have a great vacation!!

School wide support needed! Agape Therapeutic Riding Center has a fund raiser. They are selling cookbooks for \$10.00. The book has a wonderful variety of recipes and its serving a beautiful purpose. You may obtain a cookbook through Catherine Rahn via campus mail, Middle School, Room G-41.

#### March 17th-St. Patrick's Day

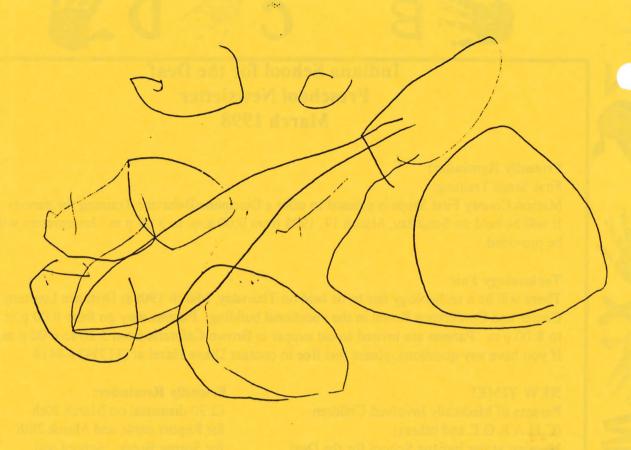
ISD will not be involved in the parade this year but we will go and watch. The parade starts at 11:30 and ends at 1:30. We will bring sack lunches and eat there. We need volunteers to help us out. If you want to volunteer, please let your child's teacher know. Hope to see you all!

#### American Society for Deaf children

16th Biennial Convention from June 27th to July 1st, 1998 Celebrating Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in Our Home, School, and Community in Rochester, New York. For more information call (716)475-2579 (V/TTY)







Thanks for doing it!

THANKS FOR GIVING ME

AN OPPORTUNITY TO UNDERSTAND

DEAF PEOPLE BETTER. IT WILL

HELP ME TO SET A GOIND BRIDGE

SETWERN HERRING + DEAF WORLD.

ENJOY SEING IN YOUR CHASS BEEN

AND ISD.

CAPRÍELLA

S. You'RE MILE TEACHER ()



#### Indiana School for the Deaf Preschool Newsletter April 1998

#### New Time!

Parents of Medically Involved Children (C.H.A.R.G.E and others)
Meeting at Indiana School for the Deaf
in Building 1, Children's Play Area Available
Thursday, April 16, 1998
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Any questions, call 1-800-743-3333 Relay Indiana
then (317)920-6256 or (317)849-0430

#### PTCO DAY!!

May 3, 1998 11:00a.m.-5:00p.m. in Booths-Refreshments-Games-Prizes Caskey Activity Building LOTS OF FUN!!! See you all there!!

If you see a purple ribbon, it has a great meaning for it. April is the month of the Young Child. It is to honor the achievements made by those in the child care field. We celebrate children and we educate those around us about issues relating to children. It is a month of great possibilities for everyone. Celebrate!

#### **April Events**

13-17— National Library Week 21—No School-Professional Day 24—Home Visits-No School

#### May Events

5--Nursery School-Indpls Zoo
7--3-4 yrs old-Indpls Zoo
12--Pre-K-Indpls Zoo
15--Field Day
25--Memorial Day (No School)
26--Pre-K--Holiday Park and
Old Spaghetti Factory

29--Pre-K Graduation 10:00a.m.

1--1/2 day--12:30 dismissal

# Reminder: Parent Workshop April 19, Sunday 1-4p.m. in Coed Lounge "Sex and Your Child"







#### Computers

#### What We Do and Why?

In our program, we have a special activity area where the children "play" with computers. While this may sound like a strange way of describing what children do with computers, this is in fact what goes on. The children experiment, using programs that help them develop in many exciting ways. Here are some of the things that children learn when they use computers:

- \* math skills and concepts such as counting and numerical relationships.
- \* beginning reading concepts
- \* how to express creativity, and
- \* how to solve problems.

Here is a list of software recommended for young children.

DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE SOFTWARE BY CONTENT AND AGE LEVEL (HAUGLAND & WRIGHT, 1997)

Recommended ages		
	Language	Recommended see
	Amazing Animation	5-14
	Bailey's Book House	2-6
	Just Grandma and Me	3-8
	KidWorks Deluxe	4-10
Zurk's Rainforest Lab 5-9	Kidware@	4-8
P	Learn about Animais	5-8
	Let's Explore the Airport with Buzzy	3-8
	Mixed Up Mother Goose Deluxe	3-6
		4-8
		4-8
100	· ————————————————————————————————————	3-12
	The state of the s	1-8
4-12		1-6
		5-9
	Zurk's Kaminiest Can	
3-8	Mark	Recommended Aven
K-12		5-11
5-8	The state of the s	3-8
2-5		3-8
4-4		
4-12	The state of the s	2-5
3-7		+10
5-9		2-5
		5-14
Recommended ages		4-8
	Zurk's Rainforest Lab	5-9
		Recommended Asset
		5-11
	Facemaker, Golden Edition	3-8
	Imagination Express Series	gu band 29
	Jungle Book	5-9
	Let's Explore the Airport with Buzzy	3-8
	Mixed Up Mother Goose Detuxe	3-6
		3-10
		6-9
9.0		5-9
	3-8 4-10 5-8 5-8 5-8 3-8 2-5 3-7 5-9  Recommended ages 3-12 5-12 3-12 4-8 4-8 4-12  Recommended ages 3-8 K-12 5-8 2-5 4-8 4-12	3-8 4-10 5-8 5-8 5-8 3-8 Amazing Animation Bailey's Sook House 3-7 Just Grandma and Me KidWorks Deluxe Kidware@ Learn about Animals Let's Explore the Airport with Buzzy Mixed Up Mother Goose Deluxe Stickybear's Reading Room Paint with Words 4-8 4-8 4-12 WinglesWorks: Story Pack 1 and 2 Word Stuff Recommended ages  K-12 5-8 K-12 5-8 Hello Kiny Big Fun Deluxe Gus Goes to Cyberopolis Millie's Math House Nick Jr. Play Math Sammy's Science House Shape Up Thinkin Things Zurk's Rainforest Lab  Recommended ages S-14 3-8 3-12 All Facemaker, Golden Edition Imagination Express Series Jungle Book Mixed Up Mother Goose Deluxe Multimedia Bug Book Stickybear Town Builder Authorized Town Builder

Where to Pumbase: Often you will find a limited selection of developmentally appropriate software title at your local department or computer stores. Educational Resources carries many of the appropriate software selections mentioned. Educational Resources - 1-800-624-2926; www edresources.com; 1550 Executive Drive, P.O. Box 1900, Elgin, IL 60121-1900.

#### References

Clements, D., Nastasi, B. & Swaminsthan, S. (1993). Young Children and Computers: Crossroads and Directions from Research. Young Children, 48 (2), 56-64.

Haugland, S. (1992). The Effect of Computer Software on Preschool Children's Developmental Gains, Journal of Computing in Childhood Education, 3 (1), 15-30.

Haugland, S. & Wright, J. (1997). Young Children and Technology. Boston: Allya and Bacon. NAEYC Position Statement on Technology and Young Children (1996). Washington, D.C.

Wright, J. & Shade, D. (1994). Young Children: Active Learners in a Technological Age. Washington, D.C., NAEYC.



#### Indiana School for the Deaf Preschool Newsletter September 1998

#### Welcome!

Everyone is off to a good start for the new school year. We are excited to see all the little faces again.

#### A Few Announcements Here:

We have a research team here from the University of Colorado and Boston University who are studying the relationship between ASL Skills and cognitive skills in Preschool. They will be here until early October. You are welcome to come and watch them work with the Preschool children. Secondly, all the Preschool staff completed the requirements for child CPR. We were trained by the American Red Cross last month. Lastly, please come to our parents' Open House on October 1st at 6:00pm. We will show you your child's classroom and all the fun activities they do daily.

#### Laurene Gallimore's Visit

Laurene Gallimore, Coordinator and Professor of Teacher Preparation: Deaf Education School of Department at Western Oregon University presented a workshops on ASL linguistics in Deaf children ages 0 to 5 with all the Preschool staff on September 3rd and 4th. The seven ASL handshapes are being posted in each classroom. Each time a child signs a vocabulary that vocabulary is being documented under a handshape. It will be fun to see how many sign vocabulary your child has expressed. Stop by and visit!

#### **New Communication Center Developing in Preschool**

Debbie Liebrich, Preschool audiologist and Jackie Katter, Speech Pathologist, are working with the preschool staff in developing a new communication center. This center will give the children a chance to experience sounds and spoken words in a fun way. A variety of options for listening will be tried as will as opportunities for practicing speech sounds. At this point Deb and Jackie have been interacting with the children in their classrooms and working within the learning centers. In the next newsletter we will share further developments as they continue to work with the Preschool staff and children to build a Bilingual/Bicultural communication center.

#### **Special Events**

September 21-25: Deaf Heritage Week

October 15: Parent Council Meeting 8:30am

25: BiBi Conference for Parents

28: Fall Festival

#### **Student Birthday Month**

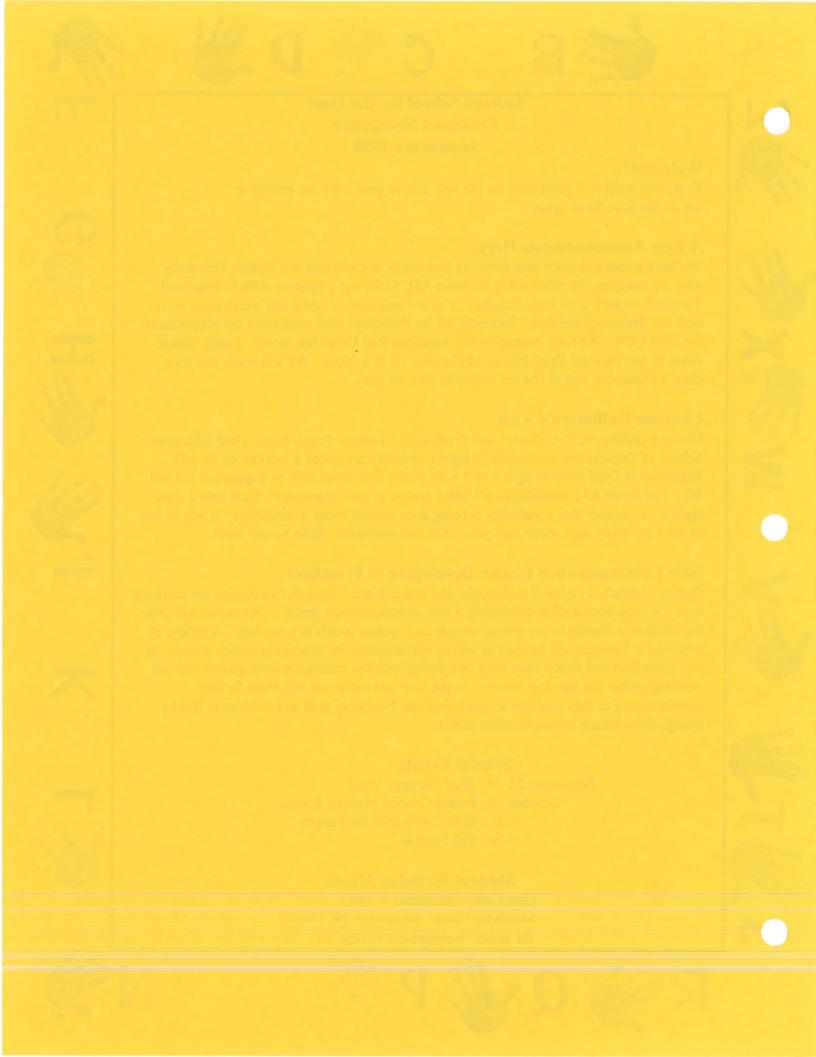
Glen Cole: September 7, 1993

Mercedes Olson: September 28, 1995

DJ Smith: September 29, 1995









#### Indiana School for the Deaf Preschool Newsletter October 1998

Luda Canty

#### **Open House News**

Our staff hosted an Open House, October 1st, for all Preschool parents.

Meanwhile, the children attended child care provided by our teacher aides and Ball State participants.

Jenny Lin, student researcher from the University of Colorado bid us farewell and thanked the parents and staff for allowing some of our students to be included in a research study conducted by the University of Colorado and Boston University. The purpose of this study is to determine how ASL skills affect a child's "Theory of Mind". Results will be published and shared with us at a later date!

ISD Preschool teacher, Debbie Trapani, gave an overview of our program. She also showed a video of her students playing in various learning centers and identified how our goals of social, emotional, cognitive and physical development were being achieved. Parents then had the opportunity to visit their child's classroom to see our new learning centers and talk with their child's teachers.

After closing comments, Principal Kovatch offered a friendly reminder to all parents..."Don't forget to pick up your children!" Refreshments were served to mark the end of our 1998 Open House.

#### Communication Center Update

We have been enjoying interacting with your children in their classrooms every day. This month we will be following the classroom themes of fall and seasons. We will talk with your child about how nature looks in different seasons, changing colors, and harvest. We will be doing activities with leaves, apples, pumpkins and gourds in which we will experience lip-reading, English vocabulary, and sounds of the season. -Deb Liebrich and Jackie Katter

#### For Your Information

Our 1st quarter will end on October 30th. A program review is being conducted by the teachers and the supervising teacher. We are reviewing the materials used in our learning centers. We are also reviewing child progress through observation and documentation. The purpose of the program review is to help all of us recognize the need for improvement or confirmation that we are on the right track.

#### **Special Events**

October 15: Parent Council Meeting 8:30am

28: Fall Festival

November 9-13: Scholastic Book Fair - Main Bldg

19: Mother's Luncheon

#### Student Birthday Month

Jenna Smith: October 3, 1993 Cody Crace: October 9, 1996 Colton Crace: October 9, 1996 Donovan Hunley: October 26, 1993





# PLAYGROUP for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Babies and Toddlers (Birth to 18 months)

The Parent Infant Program will offer a playgroup on the first and third Tuesday of the month from 9 o'clock to 11 o'clock in the morning. It will be held in Room 114 in the preschool building at the Indiana School for the Deaf. Any Deaf or Hard of Hearing children up to 18 months are welcome and must be accompanied by a parent or guardian/caretaker. Siblings are welcome to join. If you know anyone who could benefit from this playgroup, please share this information with them.

#### Purpose

\*To socialize with peers

for Child \*To foster language acquisition

\*To maximize intellectual growth

\*To experience age appropriate play and stimulation

#### PURPOSE for Parents

\*To share ideas and experiences in parenting Deaf and Hard of Hearing children.

\*To have opportunities to interact with your own child and other families

\*To find available resources

\*To learn how to provide an accessible environment for your child

For more information, contact Lori Dille and Vera Masters at (317) 924-8415 voice or tty.



Indiana School for the Deaf Preschool Newsletter November 1998

#### THE POWER OF PLAY

Have you ever seen or heard someone remark about an early childhood programeven ours, perhaps-"All the children do there is play"? At good early childhood programs there is a lot of play-and there should be!

Years of research on children's learning and development document the many benefits of play for children's intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and language development. Children at play are actively involved in creating themes, exploring and establishing environments, solving problems, and developing shared understandings.

Children play in many ways. They play independently, sometimes near each other but with each child engrossed in his own activity. They engage in what is called "parallel play," perhaps using each others' toys or even talking, but not coordinating their play. They also play cooperatively, organizing roles and scenarios for group play. As they get older, children are capable of more cooperative, coordinated play. But all kinds of play are valuable.

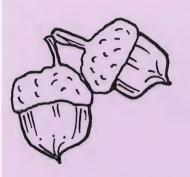
As kids play with each other, they learn to see other children's points of view and begin to become more empathetic and caring. They come to understand customs and rules in their own culture and to appreciate those of others. They learn to use language in new ways to describe their play and to interact with others. And in play, children develop their muscles and coordination.

Adults support children's play by providing space, opportunity, and materials. We set up areas where kids can play without fear of damaging furniture or injuring themselves. We make sure that they have the time to choose and to become engaged in their own play activities. And when we provide them with simple, interesting materials-no newfangled, expensive gadgets required-kids take it from there.

Play is fun. But it also is serious business that pays big dividends to its eager, young investors. Come and observe your child at play!









#### COMMUNICATION CENTER

Hey, we are having great fun with your kids!

This week we made pumpkin bread from pumpkins! (Not the canned stuff) Look for your child to talk about scooping out seeds and pulp from the pumpkin and cooking the pumpkin in the oven. We put the cooked pumpkin in the blender and mixed the bread. Yum! It was delicious.

For the rest of the month, we will be continuing to focus on food and celebrations by decorating farm animal cookies, making potato turkeys, cooking yams, and creating clove oranges. To follow Cynthia and Debbie's farm theme we will be making a farm booklet and talking about animals, their noises and what they eat. As we approach Thanksgiving, we will explore the smells and spices of the season. Deb and Jackie

#### **Special Events**

Nov. 9-13 Scholastic Book Fair in

Main Bldg. Library

Nov. 16-20 Children Book Week

Nov. 19 Mother's Luncheon

Nov. 19-21 "Hands Alive" Performance

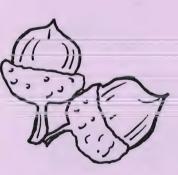
Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Feast in Preschool gym

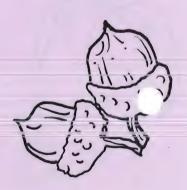
Nov. 25 Noon Dismissal/Thanksgiving Break

#### Student Birthday

Jeremy Dean: November 24, 1993







# M34M4

DATES

8:30-2:30

rene Hodock Library

**MOMS** 

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Everyone's Invited

SCHOLASTIC



Sinda Canty J. Jehrany

#### Indiana School for the Deaf Preschool Newsletter December 1998

The Best Learning is Active Learning

Active learning takes advantage of children's natural desire to move and touch. Young children love to manipulate items and explore new ideas. They enjoy the opportunity to see how things work and to test their own theories.

Active learning takes advantage of children's natural motivations, abilities, and interests. Kids get lots of opportunities to investigate what interests them-to solve problems, discover relationships, and make comparisons.

Children use all their senses to make discoveries: how heavy is it? does it smell? can I find another one that feel the same? what does it feel like when I drop it? how is it different from the other items? Using their hands, eyes, nose, ears, and mouth to explore an item, children gather more information and remember what they learn.

As they interact directly with the environment, children not only gather sensory information, they also refine their senses and motor skills. For example, it takes very refined movement of the hands and fingers to produce the penmanship required for writing. Squeezing clay, picking up puzzle pieces, and lacing threads through beads are ways for young children to practice using hands and fingers.

We organize the classroom environment to promote active learning, and we do lots of things to encourage children to think and talk about their discoveries and creations. The next time you want your child to learn about something, provide the materials, space, and time. The step back and watch. You will be surprised at how much more the child will discover through active involvement.

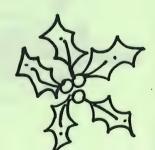
#### Communication Center News

We are having a great time doing various activities with your children. Hopefully, you have seen our projects come home. This month we have more exciting things planned. We will start the month by talking about and making snacks that the children may see at family gatherings. Next we will start talking about evergreen trees. Your child may paint a tree using an artichoke, talk about pinecones and evergreen trees. We will make an evergreen tree out of handprints to hang in the classroom. Then to top off the month we will start talking about giving gifts of food to the birds and squirrels and making some feeders to hang on the trees out front of the school. During these activities your children will be exposed to spoken English vocabulary and a variety of sounds. -Deb and Jackie

Students' Birthday

Grant Henry: December 3, 1994 Danzel Carter: December 23, 1992 Emma Baldonado: December 29, 1994

Have a great holidays!!!







Indiana School for the Deaf Preschool Newsletter January 1999

Letting Children Choose

Why do we as adults pursue hobbies such as golf, crochet, or gardening? We spend time in such an activity because we find it enjoyable, we have some control over the activity, and we see it as offering some probability of success. We choose what we will crochet or plant; we decide where, when, and with whom we will play golf or tennis.

Children, too, learn best when they have some control over their learning, when activities are meaningful and relevant, and when they can make choices in the materials they will work with and how they will use them.

Children thrive when they have opportunities every day to make choices in their learning. We facilitate children's choices within a carefully planned environment. We create the environment to allow each child to choose activities that are developmentally appropriate for his or her age. The children choose the peers with whom they will work and play and usually determine how they will use the available materials.

These choices empower children to take control of their own learning. Children use materials and equipment in far more creative and innovative ways than we could ever plan, and they use the materials in ways that meet their own developmental needs.

Research indicates that intrinsic motivation-when work on a task primarily because we find it satisfying-is the most effective and engaging way to learn. In this program we make an effort to provide materials and activities that provide choice and interest for the children. That's a key reason that you'll see busy, involved children when you visit the classroom.

#### Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten classes

To provide continuity for children and families, the Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten teachers are co-planning winter activities for their classes. Activities will take place in the Multi-Purpose Room on February 4th. Parents are welcome to join!

#### Communication Center News

For January the communication center will be centered around the theme of snow! Now we know that perhaps you may be tired of snow, but children never are. We will be using this snowfall to teach the children spoken English vocabulary related to snow and winter. We hope you will also share in the experience and learn to enjoy snow and winter with your child.

#### New Arrival

Congratulations are due to Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Smith on the birth of Danielle Jo, born November 29, 1998. The new arrival weighed in at a healthy 8 pounds and 6 ounces. Sister Jenna and brother Duke (DJ) are equally thrilled.

Special Events

January 21: PAC meeting 8:30 am

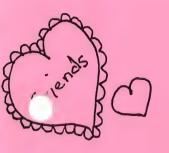
January 24: Sibling Camp

Students' Birthday

Hillary Peters: 1/10/94

Tyler Cundiff: 1/14/95







Indiana School for the Deaf Preschool Newsletter February 1999

#### Dynamic Classrooms Are Not Still!

Still hands do not mean that young children are learning. In face, since sign language is very important during the early years, still classroom may indicate that young children are not learning all they could be.

Signing gives a child the opportunity to experiment with new words. It provides the vehicle for expressing ideas and testing current knowledge.

Shared experiences are important: they give children something to sign about. Children learn the nuances of communication in groups by trying out their language skills. For example, they learn what a question looks like and how hard is hard enough to tap for someone's attention.

Using words and signing about how things work, making comparisons, and retelling experiences lead to increased intellectual development. When children reconstruct experiences, sequence events, and point out similarities or differences, they are clearly engaging in higher-level thinking skills. And when kids are encouraged to ask questions, they not only gain information from adults' responses but also build their competence-and confidence-as active seekers of knowledge and understanding.

The vocabularies children use in reading and writing are based on the words they are familiar with from watching and signing. But expanded vocabularies and other aspects of language growth occur through using language. A busy, signing classroom may be a little distracting, but positive results are easily seen!

#### Communication Center News

This month communication center will be addressing a variety of themes. We start the month by experiencing ground hog day. You may see some ground hog puppets come home. You can talk to your child about shadows, groundhogs, or superstitions. We will do shape sort activity with different size of crackers. Next we launch into valentine's week. We will make heart shaped popsicles and some valentine presents. Shh! We can't tell you what they are; it is a surprise! At the end of the month we will be introducing the concepts of LOUD and soft. First we will play with loud sound by experiencing and making instruments. "Quiet as a mouse" activities will help teach about quiet sounds. You can follow-through by discussing with your child if a sound is loud or soft and why. Feel free to ask us any questions!

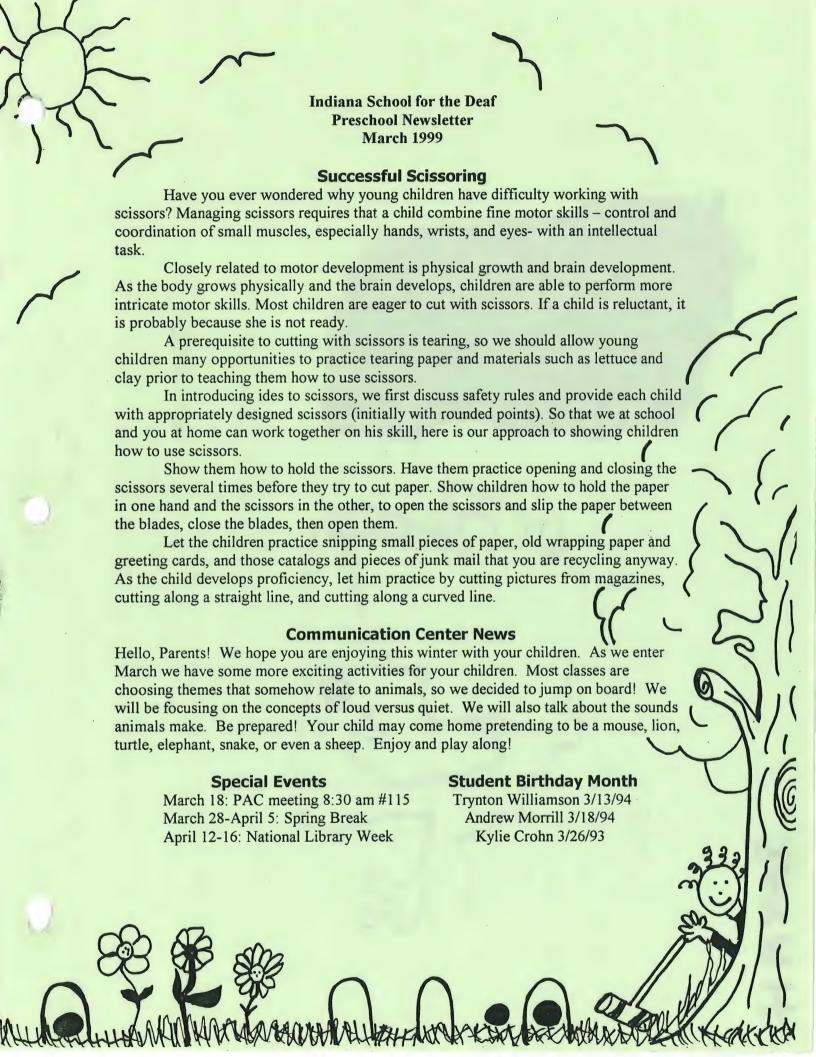
#### Special Events

February 11: Valentine's Day Party February 18: Father's Luncheon February 25: Winter Festival

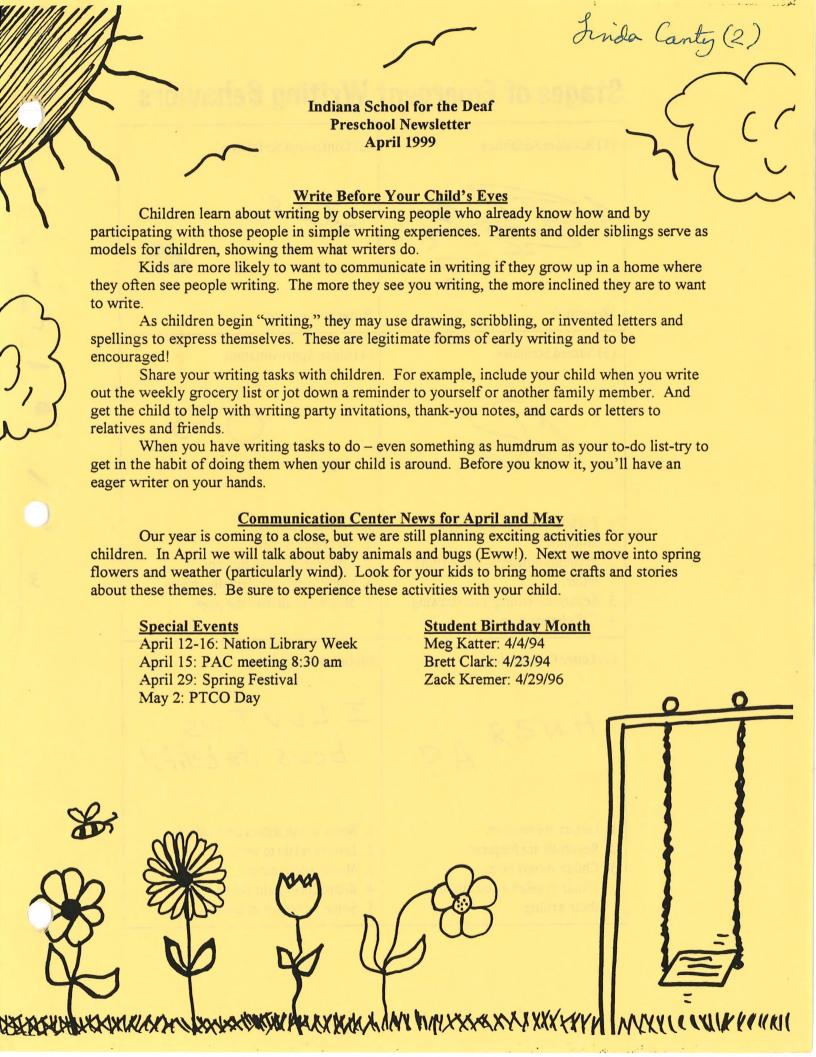








SARAH



### Stages of Emergent Writing Behaviors

(1) Random Scribbling (2) Controlled Scribbling No control Patterns repeated (3) Named Scribbles (4) Close Approximation 1. Purposeful—"I'm drawing my 1. Primitive letters mommy." 2. No organization 2. Pretends function—"I'm writing a 3. Children pretend function 4. Some letters accidentally appear 3. Separates writing from drawing. 5. May write all over the page 4. Calls letters names. (5) Letter Combinations (6) Invented Spelling I LUVTXUS HNZ9 A9 bous it & betiful 1. Letters are random. 1. Some of the letters are readable. 2. Reversals are frequent. 2. Letters relate to sounds. 3. Children copy print. 3. Mostly consonants. 4. Children believe you can read 4. Reproduces sight words. their writing. 5. Some punctuation appears.

#### Indiana School for the Deaf Preschool Newsletter May 1999

#### But I hate Broccoli!

Parents often worry because they think their young children don't eat enough. Some children seem to be naturally finicky. But others simply may be overwhelmed by the amount of food placed on their plates that they don't know where or how to begin eating.

How much food is enough? And how can we get our children to participate more successfully in mealtimes?

Physicians tell us that a child needs one tablespoon of food per year of age at each meal. That means a 3-years-old needs at least three tablespoons of food at breakfast, at lunch, and at dinner in order to maintain health and growth. These are not the heaping portions that we are tempted to put on our children's plates; they are standard measurement portions.

Allowing children to serve themselves encourages them to eat larger portions of a variety of foods. When children get to control their choices and the amount of food they take, mealtime becomes more enjoyable for them and you. Participation in meal planning and preparation also encourages children to feel that they are a part of the process of mealtime.

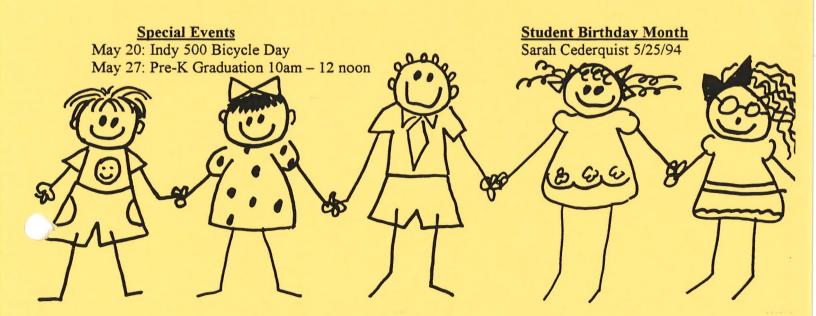
A family meal can be a time of conversation and relaxation or a time of frustration and anger. By offering children smaller amounts, the opportunity to help prepare meals, and the chance to serve themselves, we can provide a calmer, more satisfying family time for everyone.

#### **Preschool Orientation Day**

For Nursery School parents whose children are almost three years old, Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 8-10:30 a.m. is Preschool Orientation Day. Diana Battiste will lead you to Cami Cass' 3 year old classroom. You will have an opportunity to visit and observe the 3 year olds in action. Questions and comments about the program will be discussed after the classroom visit. We hope you all can come!

#### Kindergarten Orientation Day

Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> is Kindergarten Orientation Day for your Pre-Kindergartener. Parents are invited to spend the morning with your child. Come to your child's classroom. Cynthia and Sharon will lead you to the Kindergarten classes.



From: Mr. Bob Kovatch

Re: School Safety

Date: April 26, 1999

Please place this open letter to ISD parents in your next bulletin/newsletters.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The staff and students at ISD were greatly touched by the events at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado on April 20. We were involved in many discussions in the classrooms, halfways, and cafeteria after witnessing the horrific events.

On Wednesday and Thursday, April 21 and 22, supervising teachers in the Elementary, Middle School, and High School departments (Mr. David Geeslin, Mr. Jerry Thixton, Ms. Linda Lloyd) and I addressed the students. In several age-appropriate explanations we explained the facts of the incident, re-explained our expectations for student behavior and consequences at ISD (out of school suspension for any sign or remark of a threatening nature), and observed a moment of silence.

School safety is an extremely high priority at ISD and we will do everything we can to safeguard your sons and daughters while they are in our supervision.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding this matter.

Sincerely.

Mr. Robert Kovatch

Robert South

Principal

RAK/jam